

1 AN ACT concerning schools.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Sections
5 2-3.25a and 2-3.25d as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.25a) (from Ch. 122, par. 2-3.25a)

7 Sec. 2-3.25a. "School district" defined; additional
8 standards.

9 (a) For the purposes of this Section and Sections 3.25b,
10 3.25c, 3.25d, 3.25e, and 3.25f of this Code, "school district"
11 includes other public entities responsible for administering
12 public schools, such as cooperatives, joint agreements,
13 charter schools, special charter districts, regional offices
14 of education, local agencies, and the Department of Human
15 Services.

16 (b) In addition to the standards established pursuant to
17 Section 2-3.25, the State Board of Education shall develop
18 recognition standards for student performance and school
19 improvement in all public schools operated by school districts.
20 The indicators to determine adequate yearly progress shall be
21 limited to the State assessment of student performance in
22 reading and mathematics, student attendance rates at the
23 elementary school level, graduation rates at the high school
24 level, and participation rates on student assessments. Unless
25 the federal government formally disapproves of such policy
26 through the submission and review process for the Illinois
27 Accountability Workbook, the indicators to determine adequate
28 yearly progress for children with disabilities shall be based
29 on their individualized education plans. The standards shall be
30 designed to permit the measurement of student performance and
31 school improvement by schools and school districts compared to
32 student performance and school improvement for the preceding

1 academic years.

2 (Source: P.A. 93-470, eff. 8-8-03.)

3 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.25d) (from Ch. 122, par. 2-3.25d)

4 Sec. 2-3.25d. Academic early warning and watch status.

5 (a) Beginning with the 2005-2006 school year, unless the
6 federal government formally disapproves of such policy through
7 the submission and review process for the Illinois
8 Accountability Workbook, those ~~Those~~ schools that do not meet
9 adequate yearly progress criteria, ~~as specified by the State~~
10 ~~Board of Education,~~ for 2 consecutive annual calculations in
11 the same subgroup and in the same subject or in their
12 participation rate, attendance rate, or graduation rate, shall
13 be placed on academic early warning status for the next school
14 year. Schools on academic early warning status that do not meet
15 adequate yearly progress criteria for a third annual
16 calculation in the same subgroup and in the same subject or in
17 their participation rate, attendance rate, or graduation rate
18 shall remain on academic early warning status. Schools on
19 academic early warning status that do not meet adequate yearly
20 progress criteria for a fourth annual calculation in the same
21 subgroup and in the same subject or in their participation
22 rate, attendance rate, or graduation rate shall be placed on
23 initial academic watch status. Schools on academic watch status
24 that do not meet adequate yearly progress criteria for a fifth
25 or subsequent annual calculation in the same subgroup and in
26 the same subject or in their participation rate, attendance
27 rate, or graduation rate shall remain on academic watch status.
28 Schools on academic early warning or academic watch status that
29 meet adequate yearly progress criteria for one annual
30 calculation ~~shall be acknowledged for making improvement and~~
31 ~~shall maintain their current statuses for the next school year.~~
32 ~~Schools on academic early warning or academic watch status that~~
33 ~~meet adequate yearly progress criteria for 2 consecutive annual~~
34 ~~calculations~~ shall be considered as having met expectations and
35 shall be removed from any status designation.

1 The school district of a school placed on either academic
2 early warning status or academic watch status may appeal the
3 status to the State Board of Education in accordance with
4 Section 2-3.25m of this Code.

5 A school district that has one or more schools on academic
6 early warning or academic watch status shall prepare a revised
7 School Improvement Plan or amendments thereto setting forth the
8 district's expectations for removing each school from academic
9 early warning or academic watch status and for improving
10 student performance in the affected school or schools.
11 Districts operating under Article 34 of this Code may prepare
12 the School Improvement Plan required under Section 34-2.4 of
13 this Code.

14 The revised School Improvement Plan for a school that is
15 initially placed on academic early warning status or that
16 remains on academic early warning status after a third annual
17 calculation must be approved by the school board (and by the
18 school's local school council in a district operating under
19 Article 34 of this Code, unless the school is on probation
20 pursuant to subsection (c) of Section 34-8.3 of this Code).

21 The revised School Improvement Plan for a school placed on
22 initial academic watch status after a fourth annual calculation
23 must be approved by the school board (and by the school's local
24 school council in a district operating under Article 34 of this
25 Code, unless the school is on probation pursuant to subsection
26 (c) of Section 34-8.3 of this Code) and the State
27 Superintendent of Education.

28 The revised School Improvement Plan for a school that
29 remains on academic watch status after a fifth annual
30 calculation must be approved by the school board (and by the
31 school's local school council in a district operating under
32 Article 34 of this Code, unless the school is on probation
33 pursuant to subsection (c) of Section 34-8.3 of this Code) and
34 the State Superintendent of Education. In addition, the
35 district must develop a school restructuring plan for the
36 school that must be approved by the school board (and by the

1 school's local school council in a district operating under
2 Article 34 of this Code) and subsequently approved by the State
3 Superintendent of Education.

4 A school on academic watch status that does not meet
5 adequate yearly progress criteria for a sixth annual
6 calculation shall implement its approved school restructuring
7 plan beginning with the next school year, subject to the State
8 interventions specified in Section 2-3.25f of this Code.

9 (b) Beginning with the 2005-2006 school year, unless the
10 federal government formally disapproves of such policy through
11 the submission and review process for the Illinois
12 Accountability Workbook, those ~~These~~ school districts that do
13 not meet adequate yearly progress criteria, ~~as specified by the~~
14 ~~State Board of Education,~~ for 2 consecutive annual calculations
15 in the same subgroup and in the same subject or in their
16 participation rate, attendance rate, or graduation rate, shall
17 be placed on academic early warning status for the next school
18 year. Districts on academic early warning status that do not
19 meet adequate yearly progress criteria for a third annual
20 calculation in the same subgroup and in the same subject or in
21 their participation rate, attendance rate, or graduation rate
22 shall remain on academic early warning status. Districts on
23 academic early warning status that do not meet adequate yearly
24 progress criteria for a fourth annual calculation in the same
25 subgroup and in the same subject or in their participation
26 rate, attendance rate, or graduation rate shall be placed on
27 initial academic watch status. Districts on academic watch
28 status that do not meet adequate yearly progress criteria for a
29 fifth or subsequent annual calculation in the same subgroup and
30 in the same subject or in their participation rate, attendance
31 rate, or graduation rate shall remain on academic watch status.
32 Districts on academic early warning or academic watch status
33 that meet adequate yearly progress criteria for one annual
34 calculation ~~shall be acknowledged for making improvement and~~
35 ~~shall maintain their current statuses for the next school year.~~
36 ~~Districts on academic early warning or academic watch status~~

1 ~~that meet adequate yearly progress criteria for 2 consecutive~~
2 ~~annual calculations~~ shall be considered as having met
3 expectations and shall be removed from any status designation.

4 A district placed on either academic early warning status
5 or academic watch status may appeal the status to the State
6 Board of Education in accordance with Section 2-3.25m of this
7 Code.

8 Districts on academic early warning or academic watch
9 status shall prepare a District Improvement Plan or amendments
10 thereto setting forth the district's expectations for removing
11 the district from academic early warning or academic watch
12 status and for improving student performance in the district.

13 The District Improvement Plan for a district that is
14 initially placed on academic early warning status must be
15 approved by the school board.

16 The revised District Improvement Plan for a district that
17 remains on academic early warning status after a third annual
18 calculation must be approved by the school board.

19 The revised District Improvement Plan for a district on
20 initial academic watch status after a fourth annual calculation
21 must be approved by the school board and the State
22 Superintendent of Education.

23 The revised District Improvement Plan for a district that
24 remains on academic watch status after a fifth annual
25 calculation must be approved by the school board and the State
26 Superintendent of Education. In addition, the district must
27 develop a district restructuring plan that must be approved by
28 the school board and the State Superintendent of Education.

29 A district on academic watch status that does not meet
30 adequate yearly progress criteria for a sixth annual
31 calculation shall implement its approved district
32 restructuring plan beginning with the next school year, subject
33 to the State interventions specified in Section 2-3.25f of this
34 Code.

35 (c) All revised School and District Improvement Plans shall
36 be developed in collaboration with staff in the affected school

1 or school district. All revised School and District Improvement
2 Plans shall be developed, submitted, and approved pursuant to
3 rules adopted by the State Board of Education. The revised
4 Improvement Plan shall address measurable outcomes for
5 improving student performance so that such performance meets
6 adequate yearly progress criteria as specified by the State
7 Board of Education.

8 (d) All federal requirements apply to schools and school
9 districts utilizing federal funds under Title I, Part A of the
10 federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

11 (e) The State Board of Education, from any moneys it may
12 have available for this purpose, must implement and administer
13 a grant program that provides 2-year grants to school districts
14 on the academic watch list and other school districts that have
15 the lowest achieving students, as determined by the State Board
16 of Education, to be used to improve student achievement. In
17 order to receive a grant under this program, a school district
18 must establish an accountability program. The accountability
19 program must involve the use of statewide testing standards and
20 local evaluation measures. A grant shall be automatically
21 renewed when achievement goals are met. The Board may adopt any
22 rules necessary to implement and administer this grant program.
23 (Source: P.A. 93-470, eff. 8-8-03; 93-890, eff. 8-9-04.)

24 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
25 becoming law.